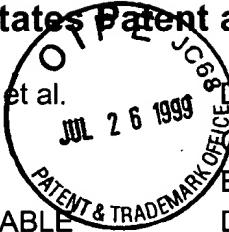


Op 3.735

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants: Thomas H. Roessler et al. Docket No.: 14,541  
Serial No.: 09/216,545 Group: 3735  
Filed: December 18, 1998 Examiner: Unknown  
For: PANT-LIKE DISPOSABLE Date: July 22, 1999  
ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH  
AN EASY OPENING FEATURE



**Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)  
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

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JUL 29 1999

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449 and the copies of those documents presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

Japanese Patent 9-287(U) is listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 and a copy is attached for the Examiner's review; however, a translation of the patent is not available at this time. Applicants will forward the translation as soon as it becomes available.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

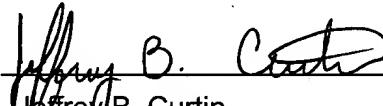
Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-8863.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS H. ROESSLER ET AL.

By:



Jeffrey B. Curtin

Registration No.: 37,601



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Thomas H. Roessler et al. Docket No: 14,541  
Serial No.: 09/216,545 Group No: 3735  
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OPENING FEATURE

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

Information Disclosure Statement Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)  
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date  
2 Pages of PTO Form 1449  
37 References

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope  
addressed to:

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**

on: July 22, 1999

Nanette A. Dotts

(Type or print name of person mailing paper)

Nanette A. Dotts  
(Signature of person mailing paper)

(Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a) [8-21])